

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TUNIS 03872 030620Z
ACTION H-03

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R 021514Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6968
INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L TUNIS 3872

H PASS JEAN PARRIN, PRESS SECRETARY, OFFICE OF SENATOR
RICHARD STONE

TEL AVIV PASS SENATOR STONE

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OREP (STONE, RICHARD B.)
SUBJECT: CODEL STONE

1. SENATOR RICHARD STONE DEPARTED TUNISIA THIS MORNING
JUNE 2 AFTER TWO DAYS OF HIGH-LEVEL CONSULTATIONS HERE WHICH
COVERED ALL ASPECTS OF U.S.-TUNISIAN RELATIONS, PERCEPTIONS
OF MUTUAL INTERESTS FOCUSING UPON THE MIDDLE EAST AND THE
SERIOUS CONCERN VOICED BY TUNISIA OVER OIL DRILLING OPERA-
TIONS BY LIBYA IN DISPUTED WATERS OFF ITS COAST. IMMEDIATELY
UPON ARRIVAL AT 1505 MAY 31 SENATOR STONE AND U.S. AMBASSADOR
EDWARD MULCAHY WERE CALLED TO THE GOVERNMENT PALACE IN TUNIS
WHERE THEY MET WITH TUNISIA'S PRIME MINISTER HEDI NOUIRA
AND MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS HABIB CHATTY. THE
DISCUSSIONS WERE CARRIED ON INTO THE EVENING FOLLOWING
A DINNER HOSTED FOR THE SENATOR BY PRIME MINISTER NOUIRA.

2. AT 1030 JUNE 1 SENATOR STONE CALLED UPON TUNISIAN
PRESIDENT HABIB BOURGUIBA AT THE PRESIDENTIAL PALACE.
FOLLOWING EXTENSIVE DISCUSSIONS, HE PARTICIPATED IN
HONORING TUNISIA ON THE OCCASION OF ITS NATIONAL DAY.
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3. DURING THE SENATOR'S VISIT HE WAS HOSTED BY
AMBASSADOR AND MRS. MULCAHY AT THEIR RESIDENCE AND WAS
BRIEFED IN DETAIL BY THE AMBASSADOR ON ALL PHASES OF
U.S.-TUNISIAN RELATIONS AND NORTH AFRICAN-MEDITERRANEAN
AFFAIRS. THE SENATOR AND AMBASSADOR WERE IN TELEPHONE
CONTACT WITH OFFICIALS IN THE U.S. CONCERNING THE OIL

DRILLING SITUATION.

4. THE SENTAOR MADE A SHORT STOPOVER IN ATHENS EN ROUTE FROM AMMAN TO TUNIS ON MAY 30. THERE HE WAS BRIEFED IN DETAIL BY U.S. AMBASSADOR TO GREECE JACK KUBISCH IN ORDER TO ASCERTAIN MOST RECENT INFORMATION ON THE CURRENT STATE OF GREEK-TURKISH RELATIONS, PARTICULARLY ON CYPRUS AND IN THE AEGEAN. U.S. POLICY OPTIONS IN THE REGION WERE EXTENSIVELY REVIEWED.
MULCAHY

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